



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Sachi A. Hamai, Executive Officer-
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

At its meeting held April 3, 2007, the Board took the following action:

S-1

Dr. Jonathan E. Fielding, Director of Public Health, presented the attached report to the Board relating to the approach proposed to implement each of the Auditor-Controller's recommendations as provided in his January 24, 2007 report relating to contamination due to the spillage of raw sewage, along with an action plan and time table to accomplish the specified results. In addition, J. Tyler McCauley, Auditor-Controller, also commented on his recommendations and the attached revised report dated March 30, 2007.

After discussion, the following statement was entered into the record for Supervisors Knabe and Antonovich:

"The Auditor-Controller's recent revision of sewage spill data reports that a 1.2 million gallon sewage spill occurred in the Santa Clara Riverbed in the Santa Clara Watershed Area in June 2003.

"Despite the extraordinary size of this spill, there were apparently questions as to whether State law required that it be reported to the Local Health Officer. According to the Department of Public Works, the riverbed was dry at the time of the spill and it did not reach State waters. However, the spill occurred within 500 feet of a residential community. The Auditor-Controller did note that despite the questions about whether reporting was mandated, the sewage treatment operator voluntarily chose to report it anyway. But it would be better if there were less ambiguity about the mandate to report."

Therefore, Supervisor Knabe made a motion, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, that the Board, consistent with the Auditor-Controller's recommendation, instruct the Director of Public Health, in conjunction with the Public Health Commission, the Auditor-Controller, County Counsel and affected agencies and constituencies, to determine whether State laws should be amended to further ensure the protection of the public's health when raw sewage is discharged into dry riverbeds. Action and status reporting on this matter should be integrated with that of the other sewage spill-related recommendations previously approved by the Board.

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S-1 (Continued)

Supervisor Yaroslavsky made a suggestion that Supervisor Knabe's motion be broadened to include dry riverbeds and other locations. Supervisor Knabe accepted Supervisor Yaroslavsky's amendment.

Supervisor Knabe's motion, as amended, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, was unanimously carried.

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Attachments

Copies distributed:

- Each Supervisor
- Chief Administrative Officer
- County Counsel
- Auditor-Controller
- Director of Beaches and Harbors
- Director of Public Health
- Director of Public Works
- Fire Chief
- Chairperson, Public Health Commission
- General Manager, Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts